

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the specification as follows:

On page 11, please replace the paragraph that starts on line 17 with the following amended paragraph:

Each of the mechanical mixing means just described preferably comprise at least one pair of co-rotating or counter-rotating mixing elements (i.e. blades, screws, grinding plates). Another suitable mixing device comprises a single rotating disc. Representative devices including rotating disc coating apparatus as described in U.S. Patent Nos. 5,447,565; 4,675,140; and 5,061,520. These patents, however, are concerned with the coating of solid particles with a liquid coating. The Applicant has found that a rotating disc coater is also suitable for embedding solid particles onto a coated core particle. A preferred rotating disc coater for this purpose is described in U.S. Patent No. 7223307~~Attorney Docket No. 59504US002~~ entitled "DISC COATER"; filed on January 21, 2004 ~~the same day as the present application~~, incorporated herein by reference. The coater concludes a disc having a periphery, a motor engaging the disc so as to be able to spin the disc, and a restrictor mounted adjacent to the disc so as to provide a gap for the egress of coated particles near the periphery of the disc. The restrictor may include a flange portion positioned above the disc so that the gap between the restrictor and the disc extends over a significant portion of the disc's radius. Further, the restrictor may also have a portion adjacent to the flange portion (e.g. frusto-conical shape) so that the height of the space between the disc and the restrictor diminishes with radial distance from the center of the disc. This is surmised to meter the particles evenly into the gap. Typically, the gap is set to a height only slightly larger than the maximum theoretical size of one of the sand particles having a single layer of the retroreflective beads. The rotational speed of this device typically ranges from 300 revolutions per minute to 700 revolutions per minute.

On page 23, please replace the paragraph that starts on line 13 with the following amended paragraph:

A disc coater was constructed generally as depicted in Figure 1 of ~~attorney docket U.S. Patent no. 7,223,307 FN59504US002~~ entitled "~~DISC COATER~~", ~~filed on the same day as the present application for patent~~, with the following particulars. The disc coater had a disc having an outside diameter of 22.9 cm (9 inches). The disc was constructed of metal and had adhered to its upper surface a layer of double-stick polyurethane foam adhesive tape 0.8 mm (1/32 inch) thick, commercially available from 3M Company, St. Paul, MN under the trade designation "Scotch Mounting Tape 110". The restrictor was constructed of metal and had an outside diameter of 22.9 cm (9 inches) and an inside diameter of 10.2 cm (4 inches). The restrictor had a frusto-conical portion, sloping downward at a 20 degree angle from the horizontal from the inside diameter to the point where the diameter was 17.8 mm (7 inches). Peripheral to the frusto-conical portion of the restrictor was a flange portion projecting horizontally from the end of the frusto-conical portion the rest of the way to the outside diameter. The restrictor was mounted adjustably over the disc on a frame positioned by a fine pitch lead screw, and for the experiment described in this example, the flange portion was spaced so as to provide a gap of 1.3 mm (0.050 inch). The disc coater was further provided with a vibrating table dispenser, commercially available as Model 20A from Eriez Magnetics of Erie, PA, disposed above the disc inboard of the inside diameter of the restrictor.